

Newton Community School Board of Education

Regular Board Meeting

E. J. H. Beard Administration Center – East Conference Room

ZOOM 928 4264 7034

January 11, 2021 – 6:30 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order – Board President Cody Muhs convened the board to order at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call – Christine Dawson, Recording Secretary

Present: Josh Cantu (via Zoom), Donna Cook (via Zoom), Robyn Friedman (via Zoom), Cody Muhs, Travis Padget (via Zoom), Graham Sullivan (via Zoom), Mark Thayer, Tom Messinger, Tim Bloom, and Christine Dawson **Others Present:** Jessica Ferguson and Bret Miller **Present via Zoom** (26 including): Jon Dunwell, Barb Hackworth, Brenda Hodnett, Lois Holmes, Ashley Kahler, Kristy Meyer, Ryan Rump, Todd Schuster, Eric VanderVelden, Shane Wheeler, Tara Zehr, KCOB, and Chris Braunschweig (Newton Daily News).

Iowa Code – Chapter 21 (Open Meetings Law) – *Chapter 21 states electronic meetings can be held only if meeting in person is impossible or impractical. The January 11, 2021 board meeting was held electronically via Zoom due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic.*

Communications – Tom Messinger, Superintendent

Donation: Knights of Columbus

Superintendent Tom Messinger thanked the Knights of Columbus for their donation of winter wear items to Coats for Kids, and for their monetary donation of \$70.16 from the Tootsie Roll Campaign benefiting the district's Special Education program.

Donation: Shomo-Madsen-Woythaler Insurance

Superintendent Tom Messinger thanked Shomo-Madsen-Woythaler Insurance for their \$2,500 donation to the Newton Community School District.

Spectator Guidelines Update

Ryan Rump, Director of Activities & Athletics shared some details of the new Little Hawkeye Conference spectator guidelines including: (1) allowance of additional family members at home games; (2) six foot distances must be maintained between non-family groups; (3) all spectators must wear masks at all times; (4) admission will be \$5.00 for everyone. Rump advised that more communication on updated spectator guidelines will be forthcoming, and any questions can be directed to him at 641.792.5797 or rump@newtoncsd.org

Purpose Statements – Cody Muhs, Board President

The mission, vision, goals, and commitments were reviewed.

Consent Agenda – Cody Muhs, Board President – **ACTION #11148**

Cook moved, Padget seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

Human Resource Update – Laura Selover, Director of Human Resources

Bret Miller, Director of Teaching & Learning presented an amended Human Resources Update.

Licensed Personnel – **ACTION #11149**

Brad Kahler - (contract) - Head Varsity Baseball Coach (NHS) - effective May 3, 2021

Eric VanderVelden - (contract) - Assistant Varsity Softball Coach (NHS) - effective May 3, 2021

Heidi Woollums - (contract) - Head Varsity Volleyball Coach (NHS) - effective 2021 - 2022 season

Hannah Hemann - (resignation) - Math Teacher (NHS) - effective end of 2020 - 2021 school year

Barbara Hackworth - (retirement) - Special Education Teacher (BMS) - effective May 28, 2021

Andy Cazett - (volunteer) - Volunteer Varsity Wrestling Coach - (NHS) - effective December 14, 2021

Cook moved, Friedman seconded to approve the Human Resources Update - Licensed Personnel Report. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

Classified Personnel – **ACTION #11150**

Anna Coyle - (agreement) - Educational Associate (EH) - effective January 8, 2021

Johnnie Savage - (agreement) - Bus Driver (Transportation) - effective TBD pending completion of HR materials

Nicole Livingston - (resignation) - Educational Associate (WW) - effective December 16, 2020

Sharon Samson - (resignation) - Bus Driver (Transportation) - effective December 15, 2020

Michelle Winchell - (resignation) - Educational Associate (WW) - effective December 22, 2020

Alvin Hartgers - (substitute) - Substitute Bus Driver (Transportation) - effective January 5, 2021

Ryan Rump - (substitute) - Substitute Bus Driver (Transportation) - effective December 14, 2020

Eric Vander Velden - (substitute) - Substitute Bus Driver (Transportation) - effective January 5, 2021

Friedman moved, Cook seconded to approve the Human Resources Update - Classified Personnel Report. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

Open Forum – Cody Muhs, Board President

None

Superintendent's Report – Tom Messinger, Superintendent

Enrollment Update

Bret Miller, Director of Teaching & Learning gave an enrollment update for the month of January 2021, including District Enrollment by Grade, Level and School. Total enrollment for January 2021 is 2,819 students (K – 12).

Learning, Leadership, and District Business – Tom Messinger, Superintendent and Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services

Consider Approval of the Purchase of 580 Dell 3100 2in1 Chromebooks from BlueAlly Technology Solutions in the amount of \$209,500.00 to be expended from the SAVE Fund – **ACTION #11151**

Shane Wheeler, Technology Supervisor presented a Chromebook Bid Summary with information from three submitting vendors. He explained the criteria and the recommendation to purchase from BlueAlly Technology Solutions. The Chromebooks will replace one grade of 1:1 devices that have reached their useful life. There was a time of questions and answers. Friedman moved, Cantu seconded to Approve the Purchase of 580 Dell 3100 2in1 Chromebooks from BlueAlly Technology Solutions in the amount of \$209,500.00 to be expended from the SAVE Fund. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

Consider Approval of the Purchase of Six (6) Video Recording Servers and One (1) Management Server from Walsh Door & Security in the amount of \$73,850.00 to be expended from the SAVE Fund – **ACTION #11152**

Shane Wheeler, Technology Supervisor presented a proposal for the purchase of servers from Walsh Door & Security. The purchase of the servers will improve the server structure and better configure video recording throughout the district. Padget moved, Sullivan seconded to Approve the Purchase of Six (6) Video Recording Servers and One (1) Management Server from Walsh Door & Security in the amount of \$73,850.00 to be expended from the SAVE Fund. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

Consider Resolution for the District to Make an Application to the SBRC for Modified Supplemental Amount for At-Risk/Dropout Prevention in the amount of \$1,038,840 – ACTION #11153

Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services presented a resolution for the district to make an application to the School Board Review Committee (SBRC). Friedman moved, Sullivan seconded to Approve a Resolution for the District to Make an Application to the SBRC for Modified Supplemental Amount for At-Risk/Dropout Prevention in the amount of \$1,038,840. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

Board Policy Review – First Reading of Board Policy Code No. 502.8E1 [Search & Seizure Checklist] – ACTION #11154

Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services, reviewed the First Reading of Board Policy Code No. 502.8E1. Cook moved, Cantu seconded to Approve the First Reading of Board Policy Code No. 502.8E1 [Search & Seizure Checklist] as presented. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

Board Policy Review – First Reading of Board Policy Code No. 106 [Discrimination and Harassment Based on Sex Prohibited] – ACTION #11155

Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services, reviewed the First Reading of Board Policy Code No. 106. Friedman moved, Sullivan seconded to Approve the First Reading of Board Policy Code No. 106 [Discrimination and Harassment Based on Sex Prohibited] as presented. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

School Board Handbook Update

Cody Muhs, Board President presented for discussion an updated School Board Handbook. A copy was sent to board members via email on January 11, 2021 to offer any additional edits. The handbook was last updated March 23, 2020. Superintendent Tom Messenger noted that some job descriptions may need to be brought back to the board to ensure alignment.

Discussion of Principal’s Reports and Board Goals Progress

Superintendent Tom Messenger reviewed the process of providing information to the board through the monthly Principal’s Reports. Board President Cody Muhs noted that he has established a timeline with specific topics for principals to report on to the board each month, in addition to Red Pride Shout Outs. Friedman requested that principals continue to report on Teacher Professional Development Days.

Business Services Report – Tim Bloom, Director of Business Services

Approval of Bills – ACTION #11156

Sullivan moved, Friedman seconded to approve the bills as presented. Ayes: Cantu, Cook, Friedman, Muhs, Padget, Sullivan, Thayer Nays: None

New Business – Old Business – Tim Bloom, Board Secretary

Future Meeting Dates: TBD – 6:00 PM – Board Policy Review Meeting (EJH Beard Administration Center/via ZOOM) - *Cody Muhs requested a board member replace him on the Board Policy Review Committee*; **January 25, 2021** – 6:30 PM – Regular Board Meeting (EJH Beard Administration Center/via ZOOM) **Upcoming Events:** **January 19, 2021** – IASB Webinar (Topic: State Budget) (6:30 PM); **January 21, 2021** – IASB Virtual Lobby Day (Supplemental State Aid & School Funding Policy); **January 25, 2021** (No School – Students) (Teacher Work Day); **January 26, 2021** – Start 3rd Quarter/Start 2nd Semester (resume on-site learning 5 days/week Mon – Fri).

Consider Open Forum Topics or Future Agenda Items

Open Enrollment Subcommittee; Board Culture; Communication Initiative; High Performing School Board; Staff Turnover Rates (Educational Associates); Onsite & Remote Learner Attendance; Recent legislation with the stimulus.

Board Highlights

Chromebook Purchase; Servers Purchase; Updated Spectator Guidelines; Retirement (Barb Hackworth).

Adjourn – ACTION #11157

Cook moved, Cantu seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 PM.

Minutes Mailed _____ (President)
Approved by Action No. _____, 2021

_____ (Secretary)